

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A device (1) for producing container blanks (2) from a material web (3), which container blanks in the filled state form containers of a collapsible type, said device comprising

at least one sealing tool (7) with an extended rib (9), the sealing tool (7) being movable to bring the rib (9) into engagement with the material web (3) for joining opposite wall portions of the material web (3),

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a compensating means (14) for ensuring abutment of the rib (9) along its entire length against the material web (3).

2. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rib (9) is arranged to form a connecting portion of the container blank (2) which at least defines a compartment of the container blank (2).

3. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1 or 2, in which the compensating means (14) is arranged to provide a contact pressure against the material web (3), the contact pressure varying along the extent of the rib of the at least one sealing tool.

4. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1-3~~ claim 1, wherein the at least one sealing tool (7) is suspended from the compensating means (14).

5. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1-4~~ claim 1, wherein the compensating means (14) is a spring assembly.

6. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 5, in which the spring assembly comprises spring elements with mutually different spring constants.

7. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 5 ~~or 6~~, in which the spring assembly comprises at least one pressure spring.

8. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~claims 5-7~~ claim 5, wherein the spring assembly is biased.

9. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the compensating means (14) is arranged along edge portions (18) of the at least one sealing tool (7).

10. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the device further comprises a base element (12), from which the at least one sealing tool (7) is suspended via said compensating means (14).

11. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 10, wherein a number of pins are arranged on the side of the sealing tool (7) which faces the base element (12) and the base element (12)

comprises a number of through holes, the pins extending through said holes and said spring elements being arranged around the pins and positioned between the sealing tool (7) and the base element (12).

12. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the pins support stop washers at the ends extending through the holes of the base element (12).

13. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the device further comprises an abutment (8), which is arranged on the opposite side of the material web(3) to cooperate with the sealing tool (7) for joining opposite wall portions of the material web (3).

14. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the abutment (8) has a shape complementary to the sealing tool (7).

15. (Original) A method for producing container blanks (2) from a material web (3), which container blanks (2) in the filled state form containers of a collapsible type,

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arranging a material web (3) with wall portions, abutting against each other, between a sealing tool(7) and an abutment (8),

which sealing tool (7) comprises a rib (9) having an extent corresponding to the connecting portions of a container blank (2),

bringing said rib into abutment against the material web for clamping the same between said rib and said abutment,

compensating for the abutment of the rib so that the rib along its entire extent abuts against the material web, and

joining, by means of said rib, said opposite wall portions to each other along a connecting portion.

16. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said step of compensating for the abutment of the rib is performed by means of a spring assembly, from which said sealing tool is suspended and which in connection with the step of bringing the tool into abutment against the material web compensates for deviations in the initial setting of the tool.

17. (Currently Amended) A machine for producing container blanks (2) from a material web (3), which container blanks in the filled state form containers of a collapsible type,

characterised in that

it comprises a device as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1-14~~ claim 1.